Amendment No. 2 to SB0437

FILED
Date
Time
Clerk
Comm. Amdt

## McNally Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 437\*

House Bill No. 787

by redesignating Sections 2, 3, and 4 of the bill, as amended by Senate Education Committee Amendment No. 1, to be Sections 3, 4, and 5, and by adding the following as a new Section 2:

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-101, is amended by deleting present subsection (f) and substituting the following:

(f)

- (1) Through a system of competitive grants and technical assistance provided as funding is available, the department of education may establish, administer and monitor programs of community-based early childhood education and pre-kindergarten programs. Such programs shall be designed to address comprehensively the educational needs, including cognitive, physical, social and emotional, of children who are not otherwise eligible for similar programs or who do not have access to such programs. The programs shall serve:
  - (A) Children who are four (4) years of age on or before September 30 and from families with incomes that meet the eligibility requirements for free and reduced lunch as determined pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1771; and,
    - (B) Subject to availability of space and resources:
    - (i) children who are three (3) and four (4) years of age and who are screened and identified as educationally at-risk, determined pursuant to 20 U.S. § 1400 et seq.;

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- (ii) children who are three (3) and four (4) years of age who have been in the Tennessee Early Intervention

  Program (TEIS) and/or Even Start program; and
- (iii) children three (3) years of age and from families with incomes that meet the eligibility requirements for free and reduced lunch as determined pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1771.

Enrollment in the program shall be voluntary.

- (2) Any public or not-for-profit agency, meeting the criteria for 501(c)(3) tax exempt status, with experience serving children and in good fiscal standing, is eligible to contract with the department of education to perform the delivery of educational services in compliance with the rules promulgated and the policies adopted for early childhood education by the state board of education. All not-for-profit agencies, contracted to deliver the early childhood education and pre-kindergarten program, must demonstrate a collaborative agreement between the agency and the local education agency to enhance transition into the public schools, to monitor student performance outcomes as children are promoted through the elementary grade levels, and to evaluate early childhood education teachers for purposes of teacher licensure.
- (3) The distribution of early childhood education and prekindergarten programs shall be developed in phases based on availability

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of funding and resources. Selection of early childhood education and prekindergarten program sites shall take into consideration the areas of greatest need which may be determined by, but not limited to,

- (A) School service areas with high percentages of children from families with incomes that meet the eligibility requirements for free and reduced lunch as determined pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1771:
- (B) Access to early childhood education and prekindergarten programs within the county; and/or
- (C) Service areas of schools which have been determined to be "on notice or probation", as defined by Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-602.
- (4) All early childhood education and pre-kindergarten programs established under this subsection shall be developed through a collaborative effort of the departments of education, health, children's services, and human services, and shall build upon resources and services within the community. Efforts should be made by the interdepartmental group to inform eligible families about enrollment in the early childhood education and pre-kindergarten programs, to address the health and social needs of children, and to assist working families to meet extended day child care needs.

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(5) All provisions of this subsection are subject to appropriation of funds for that purpose. No provision of this subsection shall be considered an entitlement to any service or program authorized by this subsection unless funds are appropriated for such purpose.